

# HORSE FACILITIES HANDBOOK

**Your guide to**

**Site Planning**

**Stables**

**Pastures**

**Paddocks**

**Arenas**

**Outdoor Facilities**

**Breeding Facilities**

**Feed Storage**

**Bedding**

**Fencing**

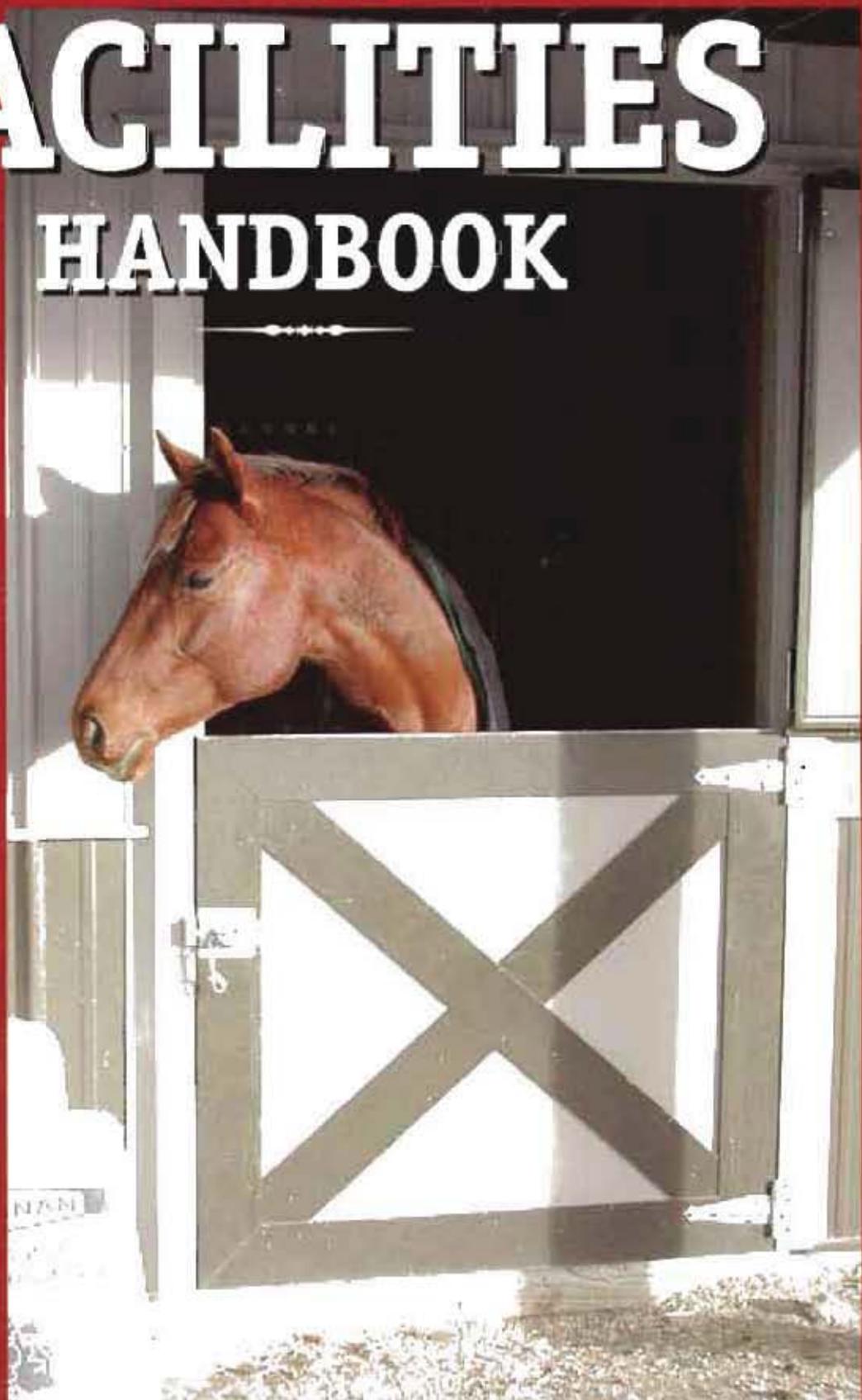
**Environmental Control**

**Manure Management**

**Utilities**

**Fire Protection**

**Emergency Response**



**Eileen Wheeler • Bill Koenig • Jay Harmon • Pat Murphy • David Freeman**

# HORSE FACILITIES HANDBOOK

Eileen Wheeler  
Bill Koenig  
Jay Harmon  
Pat Murphy  
David Freeman



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*...And Justice for All.*

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# P R E F A C E

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This handbook has been developed to help engineers, designers, and horse owners, and enthusiasts who are developing new facilities, remodeling existing facilities, making plans for a future project, or doing research about facilities so that their horse will receive the best care as they make a decision on where to board their horse. This book is a revision of and replaces the book titled *Horse Handbook: Housing and Equipment*, MWPS-15, first edition, 1971.

Like the first edition, this book still has a wealth of great construction details, but now has vastly expanded discussions and information on:

- Site selection and site layout,
- Building and stable designs and layouts,
- Manure handling and treatment,
- Ventilation and environmental control, and
- Fire safety.

In addition to the expanded discussions, this handbook now includes detailed information on:

- Roadways that will allow for easy and safe entry to the farmstead,
- Parking and turn-around areas for cars, trucks, trucks and trailers, and semi-trailers,

- Pastures, paddocks, and outdoor facilities,
- Arenas and training facilities,
- Breeding facilities,
- Bulk feed and bedding storage,
- Fencing,
- Water, electrical, and domestic waste designs, and
- Emergency response planning.

People using this handbook will gain knowledge on many design and safety issues including:

- How horse behavior affects design,
- How to design pastures so that a dominant horse will not injure a less dominant horse,
- What are the keys to successfully ventilate a stable and to keep it cool or warm,
- How farmstead and stable layout can increase labor efficiency,
- What to do with the manure that accumulates,
- How to avoid drainage problems, and
- What can be done to minimize the negative effects of an emergency situation such as fire or severe weather.

The handbook can be purchased at the [Iowa State University Midwest Plane Service](#)